CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 21 TORONTO 2, CANADA September 20th, 1930

IT'S CATCHING!

The fame of

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in "The Big House" has spread from Coast to Coast. A name that represents drawing power! He is an exclusive star of

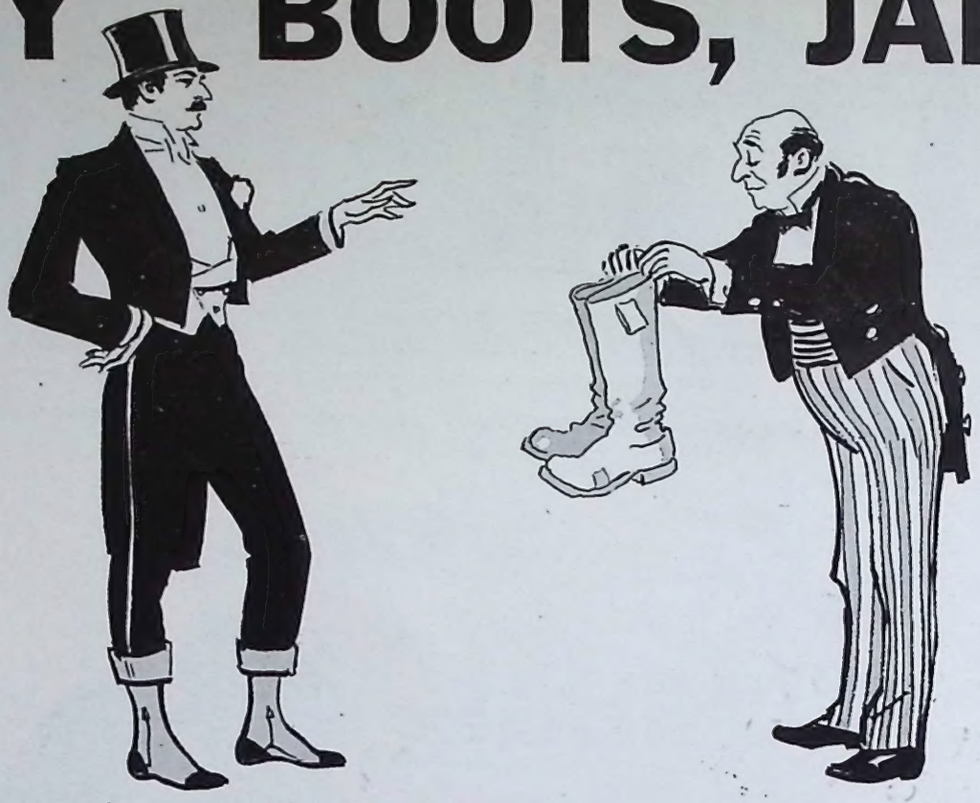
WALLACE BEERY is featured in these New Season M-G-M attractions:

John Gilbert's
WAY FOR A SAILOR
BILLY THE KID
THE DARK STAR
Grace Moore's Cosmopolitan Production. And others.

METRO-GOLD MAYER

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

"MY BOOTS, JAMES!"



OH, see the well dressed man!
HE'S going to finish off his costume
WITH street-cleaner's boots!
DID you ever stop to think that
AN expensive theatre and a
GOOD show are absolutely ruined by
CARELESSLY selected comedy shorts!
DEMAND quality comedies!
DEMAND comedy stars that are known!

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6 LAUREL HARDY **8 CHARLIE CHASE**
8 "OUR GANG" **8 THE BOY FRIENDS**

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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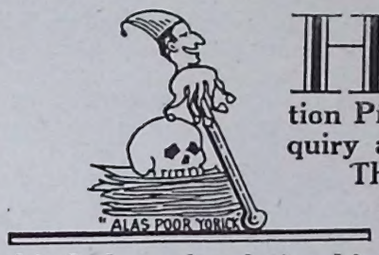
Motion Picture Facts



HALSEY, STUART & CO. have compiled a booklet on the Motion Picture Industry which is not only good-looking printing, but contains a fund of Motion Picture facts which should give the answer to any inquiry as to the importance of this Industry.

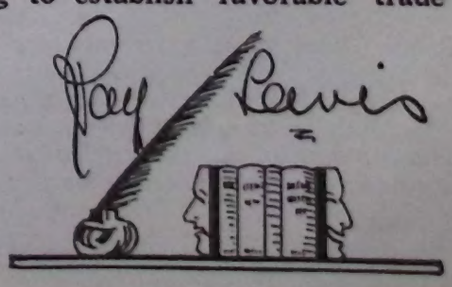
The booklet has been principally compiled "as a field of investment," but in citing the financial opportunities Halsey, Stuart & Co., have covered every phase of this Industry's relationships, nationally and internationally, financially and socially, revealing how its network of interests vein their way into the diplomatic channels of nation building, and trade building!

The introductory note, which stresses the rapidity of the growth of the most popular of industries, cites that "in half a lifetime, Motion Pictures have grown from a mere idea to a two billion dollar industry, with a weekly attendance approximating the total population of the United States, and annual box office revenues of hundreds of millions."

The further statement, that for every foot of film exported the U.S. received a return of $1.00 in trade, gives the Industry the credit for bringing in $300,000,000 annually in trade to the U.S. through the direct influence of Motion Pictures, and this is but the beginning of the trade which Motion Pictures create, for as this booklet rightly states in its "Economic, Social, and Cultural Effects of the Movies," what is presented upon the screen sells not only its ideas to the public, but everything from a pin to an elephant, the accessories with which the story is dressed.

The Halsey, Stuart & Co. booklet states, "Manufacturers of motor cars, interior furnishings, clothing, and merchandise of a thousand sorts have benefited through the desires and ambitions aroused by the Motion Picture. Everywhere it has created demand, and has played a prominent part in raising the general standard of living. It has also stimulated foreign trade." Then follows the reason for the Halsey, Stuart & Co.'s statement in reference to the $300,000,000 revenue from film exports, and we agree with these experts of finance when they state, "this addition to the demand for American goods is no small item," and we add, this demand does not cease with the filling of these orders, but for every $1.00 of American-made film, or other product sold, a market for future sales is established!

It is therefor not surprising that in this period of trade depression, and unemployment, that all nations should be seeking to establish favorable trade agreements, if not favorable trade balances, in order to stabilize the economic fabric of their structure, without which there is no outlet for finance, nor industry, nor labour; and in this stabilization the Motion Picture plays a leading part!



RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

LOEW'S, Toronto, introduces its new policy the first week in October, pictures only, eliminating the vaudeville, which will give Shea's Hippodrome the one vaudeville setting.

The line-up of pictures which Loew's will present will include the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and United Artists programs. Prices will be twenty-five and fifty cents.

When we take into consideration the big names which these combined programs include, and the quality of the trademarks, by way of productions, the "real theatre feeling" which Loew's of Toronto possesses, it looks very much as if the action on the part of Paramount Publix, in killing The Uptown, is going to make Loew's, Toronto, the big first run picture house, however, we regret the passing of Loew's vaudeville.

The Imperial is fighting for first place, bringing stars here for personal appearances in order to make this house the "big house." Mitzi Green arrived this week, we understand Buddy Rogers is to follow, and several other stars on the Paramount payroll, for which the Imperial will pay "heavy." In fact Mitzi is drawing enough to pay a good vaudeville bill, and as for Buddy Rogers he is on the expense sheet for real thousands. Paramount intends to be good spenders of the Canadian shareholders investment, but while we are on the subject of Paramount, this company is not doing itself any good in trying to release all of its product all of the time. Some of its short subjects are among the world's worst, not all of them, but enough of them to make a Paramount Short begin to get the reputation of being "short, very short on quality and entertainment."

BRITISH INTERNATIONAL is getting the right idea, through its American representative, Capt. Harold Auten, this British company has leased the George M. Cohan Theatre on Broadway for the showing of its pictures, starting September 26th, with "Young Woodley." Following this release "Atlantic" will be presented. "Atlantic" is that most excellent feature, now being released by the Regal Films in Canada, and which we in Toronto are anxiously waiting to see, owing to the number of splendid criticisms which have come with the play dates it has had.

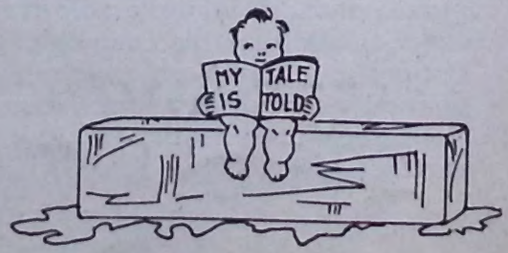
"Atlantic" was privately screened for the press in Toronto, that is for some of us; and we were all agreed that here was a British production not only unusual in its general quality, but altogether unusual in its entertainment and interest values. "Atlantic will be shown in the George Cohan Theatre on Broadway, simultaneously with its showing at the 55th St. playhouse.

"LOOSE ENDS" is another British International to be released by Regal Films, and which Henry Nathanson selected as one of the big ones. "Loose Ends" will also be shown on Broadway. Owen Nares has the male lead in this feature, but the women particularly shine for good looks, fine voices, ability and splendid opportunity. "Murder," "Suspense," "Two Worlds" are among the other British features scheduled for Broadway.

Loew's, Toronto, recently presented "One Embarrassing Night," adapted from "Rookery Nook." It is a comedy, being released through Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and has some very amusing flashes throughout the development of the story, but like Paramount's "Grumpy" with Cyril Maude, and like "Splinters" these are not the best of what England can give us, but good entertainment, if not over-exploited. In comparison with the early British releases one is inclined to state, they are so much superior that there is no comparison, but they do not hit the high spots of either "Atlantic" or "Loose Ends."

FOX made a scoop with its Movietone of The Hon. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada. The Grand Theatre, London, presented the first showing of the Prime Minister, which revealed this distinguished public figure introducing the members of his cabinet; and also Miss Mildred Bennett, his sister, who by the way is a tall, good-looking girl with a charm of manner, which fits her for the position of first lady of the land; and who officiates as her brother's hostess. Miss Bennett gave a luncheon at the Country Club, Ottawa, Wednesday, in honour of Mrs. Forbes, wife of the Prime Minister of New Zealand, and the wives of the cabinet ministers. Your editor had the honour of being one of Miss Bennett's guests; and among the other guests was Betty Ross, heralded as the "Queen of American Reviewers," and who is associated with Motion Pictures through the production of some of her stories by Warner Bros. for Vitaphone.

The Major Theatre, Rogers Road, Toronto, won first place in the race to be the 300th Canadian theatre equipped with Northern Electric Sound System, re-opening its doors on Friday, September 12th.



Business Is Good!

At the Theatres showing

FOX

Box Office Stimulators

During the Past Year Fox Features were Real Box-Office Magnets The Present Year Promises to Surpass This Enviable Record, With Such Pictures as:-

Song O'My Heart
Common Clay
Last of the Duanes
The Sea Wolf
Lilliom

Already Released, and

The Big Trail
The Man Who Came Back
Just Imagine **(Gaynor-Farrell)**
Lightnin'
Renegades
Up the River
Scotland Yard

Coming Soon, and More Big Ones to Follow.

Compare the FOX Line-up With Any Other. We Welcome This Comparison.

Fox Film Corporation

HARLEY L. CLARKE, President

Toronto - Montreal - St. John - Winnipeg - Calgary - Vancouver

Magistrate Reserves Judgment

Magistrate G. R. McQueen, in the police court, Victoria, B.C., after hearing the evidence, and arguments by the counsel for the defence, reserved his opinion in the case of two theatre owners, W. P. Nichols and Hector Quagliotti, charged under the Provincial Motion Pictures Act, with having operated theatres without first getting a license.

Mr. D. N. Hossie, counsel for the defense, contended that the evidence showed that both men had paid $200 to the Government for the licenses, and that to operate the theatres after the license had been cancelled was not a violation of the Act, as no penalty was provided for this in the Motion Picture Act.

Quick Service

Mr. Leo Nolin made what is probably the fastest automobile trip to Saskatoon, Sask., that has ever been accomplished. "Sarah and Son," the picture billed for the Empress Theatre, North Battleford, Sask., was billed through to Winnipeg. Mr. Marshall, Manager of the Empress had the shipment stopped at Saskatoon, but in order to receive it in time for the evening performance a quick means of transportation had to be found.

Mr. Nolin was called and started out for Saskatoon five minutes after three and arrived back a few minutes to nine. The waiting crowds saw the picture within a few minutes.

Just Another Miniature

The Opera House, Neepawa, Man., which was one of the first houses in the West to go sound, has been leased to Messrs. Beatty and Dancocks of Red Deer, Alta. There will be extensive alterations on the theatre and a miniature Golf Course is being laid out in the basement.

May Stage Benefit

Mr. Paul Pitner, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Rossland, B.C., is seriously contemplating giving a benefit in aid of the bereaved families of the miners killed in the Blakeburn mine explosion.

Pictures of Celebration

Several pictures of the Labor Day celebration in Rossland, B.C., were taken by Messrs. R. Ray and H. Cress, of St. Paul, Minnesota. These pictures, taken for the Provincial Government, are coloured, and they will be shown everywhere, being exhibited at the Capitol Theatre, Rossland, first.

Messrs. R. Ray and H. Cress were not the only ones to take pictures, the manager of the Capitol was also right there in the thick of it. Mr. H. Booth, managing director of the Motion Screen Ads, Limited, Vancouver, with Chairman Hamilton took several scenes of the celebration, and these will be shown at the Capitol in advance of the coloured pictures.

Another Menace

It appears that the Drama has another enemy besides Talkies, in the form of miniature golf. Ivan Samson, who plays in "A Symphony in Two Flats" says that miniature golf has invaded London, England, and is having quite an effect on the box-office receipts of the theatres.

Mr. Samson stated that the theatre stiuation in London was very poor. He also said that the most popular show on Piccadilly was "Bitter Sweet," which was playing to large crowds.

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Cont-El-Arc Motor Generator Sets, in all sizes to handle any arc amperage. The finest set that money can buy, reasonably priced, and guaranteed to give years of trouble-free satisfaction.

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Ask or write for a copy of our Junior and Senior Sound Equipment Folder, free for the asking. The very finest talking picture equipments for Motiograph, Powers or Simplex, high class apparatus already giving perfect results, at a price that you can afford to pay.

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Show Business

(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

In an attempt to settle the matter for all parties, the new Canadian Government, through Hon. C. H. Cahan, Secretary of State, has appointed an advisory committee on patents and copyrights with Mr. Justice McLean of the Exchequer Court of Canada as chairman, the committee to bring in recommendations for consideration at the next session of Parliament in February. The statutes are to be overhauled.

Mr. Justice McLean heard the application of De-Forest Phonofilms of Canada, Montreal, against Famous Players and the Northern Electric Company last spring for damages for alleged infringement of talking picture equipment patents but no decision has been handed down by him.

It is also expected that the committee will take into consideration the attempt of the Canadian Performing Rights Society to levy an anuual seat tax on all theatres for the privilege of playing music which the Society claims to control by possession of copyright assignments. The exhibitors have ignored the threats so far.

United Amusements, Limited, operating 20 theatres in Montreal and Sherbrooke, has built the first indoor Tom Thumb golf course in Canada, making use of the basement of the Rialto Theatre, in the north end of Montreal for the purpose. The course will not be restricted to theatre patrons.

In a move to combat United States films, the National Council of Education has organized Film Weeks in various Canadian cities during which pictures made in England, Germany, India and Canada will be presented in leased theatres. This has been announced by Major Fred. J. Ney, M.C., Winnipeg, secretary of the council, who declared that English and European features had now become the equal of Hollywood productions.

The Canadian Council on Child Welfare, Ottawa, has just published its fifth "White List" of motion pictures suitable for children. With the growing use of talking pictures, it is noteworthy that these lists have been getting shorter, the present publication containing only 14 approved features.

In alphabetical order, the latest White List comprises the following: "Around the Corner," "Cohens and Kellys in Scotland," "The Devil's Holiday," "The Flirting Widow," "Follies of 1930," "Grumpy," "The Hide Out," "In Gay Madrid," "Mountain Justice," "Rogue Song," "Sarah and Son," "So This is London," "Swing High" and "True to the Navy."

The suggestion further is made that suitable scenics and educational releases are obtainable from the Canadian and Ontario Government studios and Associated Screen News, Ltd., Montreal. The Canadian Council also expressed appreciation for co-operation extended by the various censor boards, Film Boards of Trade, Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association and others in compiling the list.

Members of the Advertising Club of Montreal heard an address by S. Morgan-Powell, widely-known dramatic critic of the Montreal Star, in which he criticized the control of the Motion Picture Industry by United States interests and urged the making of talking pictures in Canada because of the influence now exerted on young Canadians by the United States film product. He did not believe the Hollywood pictures superior, from a technical point of view, to those made in Germany or England.

Canada could produce pictures that would compete with Hollywood productions, he believed, but the problem to be faced was that of distribution.

(Special to the Digest from Winnipeg)

The Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted Police assisted by rangers and a posse of three-score armed men under the direction of Sergeant Gallagher has instituted British Columbia's greatest man-hunt in recent years in the wild and rugged Chilcotin district, about 300 miles north of Vancouver, for Cosens Spencer, a prosperous rancher of the province.

Spencer is alleged to have shot and killed Edward Smith, storekeeper for Deer Creek ranch, operated by the accused, and to have had seriously wounded Walter H. Stoddart, ranch manager. The man-hunt commenced soon after it became known that Spencer, heavily armed, had fled into the wilds. Almost inaccessible country 75 miles northeast of Williams Lake has been combed for the alleged slayer.

Spencer was one of the best known men in the Chilcotin cattle country, and the shooting has created a tremendous sensation there. He is a pioneer resident of the province. In the early days he operated a store at Camp McKinney, later going to Australia where he became a moving picture magnate, but returning later to British Columbia with considerable money to engage in ranching.

Spencer's ranch is one of the largest in the province, and comprises 25,000 acres. Sections of it are irrigated. Last year Spencer maintained on the ranch three thousand head of cattle, in addition to a large number of thoroughbred horses. He engaged also in mixed farming, and his turnover last year was estimated at $100,000. The ranch property is located about 50 miles northwest of the town of Williams Lake, at the entrance to the Chilcotin Valley. A large number of farmers carry on operations in the district.

At a session of the Trade and Labor Congress of Canada held at Regina, Sask., Sept. 12, a resolution asking that steps be taken to have producers of talking pictures and sound equipment manufacture their goods in Canada or else pay a higher tax, led to a lengthy discussion. Supporters of the measure stated the introduction of "talkies" had led to the practical elimination of musicians who had previously been employed by theatres. Others felt a higher tax would result in increases in theatre prices, and prices would soon be beyond the reach of the working man. The resolution was defeated after the chair had stated its intention of having the executive council investigate the matter.

Round About the Studios

Warner Bros. have acquired screen rights to "Jack Daw's Strut," the fiction success of the current season by Harriet Henry. The book is pubished by William Morrow & Co., Inc. The title is taken from a line in Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pinafore."

Frank Richardson returned from his vaudeville tour in time to play a featured part at the Fox Films studios in "Men On Call" featuring Edmund Lowe and Mae Clarke. Richardson is one comedian who does not aspire to drama, preferring comedy roles of the type which he has been playing for the talkies.

Margaret Livingston, that amusing and entertaining screen siren, is playing a gunman's "moll" in "Big Money," Pathe's special now in production with Eddie Quillan, Robert Armstrong and James Gleason heading the imposing cast now being directed by Russell Mack.

Leading roles besides Miss Livingston's, are filled by Miriam Seegar who has the ingenue lead, Dorothy Christy and Myrtle Crinley. Other well known players in the cast include Robert Edeson, Robert Gleckler, G. Pat Collins and Morgan Wallace.

Russell Mack collaborated with Walter De Leon on the story of "Big Money."

Vera Marsh, recently with Harry Carroll's Music Box Revue in Los Angeles. is playing the feminine lead in "Meet the Widow," a Pathe two-reel comedy under the direction of Monte Carter. Miss Marsh made her Pathe debut as the Athletic Girl in "Peck 'Em Young," Carter's first short musical comedy film.

Fay Wray, one of the most important young leading women to appear upon the horizon in the past two seasons, has been entrusted with the feminine lead in Columbia's epic air drama, "Dirigible." Frank Capra is directing this roadshow production which is being made with the assistance and through the courtesy of the U.S. Navy Department, and which brings together again Jack Holt and Ralph Graves, the famous buddies of "Submarine," "Flight" and "Hell's Island.'

John Erskine's best seller, "Sincerity," has been completed at Universal City under the title "A Lady Surrenders." The privileged few who saw it at the private pre-view are predicting it will rank high among the success of the year. So well did Genevieve Tobin acquit herself in her film debut that Carl Laemmle, Jr., immediately extended her contract for further pictures. Others in the cast are Conrad Nagel, Basil Rathbone and Rose Hobart.

Charlotte Greenwood, the elongated musical comedy star of "So Long Letty," "Linger Longer Letty" and other memorable Broadway hits, has completed her first Tuxedo comedy for Education release. It has been titled "Love Your Neighbor," and is based on an original story by Hale Hamilton, who is permanently identified in stage annals as the star of "Get Rich Quick Wallingford." William Watson directed a large cast, including Wilfred Lucas, Dot Farley and Henry Roquenine.

Ruth Chatterton, well-known actress, appearing in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer productions.

Charles Starrett, Mary Brian, Ina Claire, Fredric March, Henrietta Crossman and Frank Conroy are rehearsing the leading roles in "The Royal Family" at the Paramount New York studio. Production will start within a few days, under the co-direction of George Cukor and Cyril Gardner. The screen play is an adaptation by Herman Mankiewicz of the stage comedy of the same name by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman.

Dan Healy, who has hoofed and kidded his way through innumerable stage and screen successes, recently scoring in "The Laughing Lady," is starred in "The Unfair sex," a new Vitaphone Varieties comedy. Opposite Healy is Dolly Gilbert, a brunette beauty. Roy Mack directed "The Unfair Sex."

The ever-popular William Haines, playing in starring roles for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Winter Hall, eminent Australian character actor, has been given by William C. DeMille the strongly dramatic role of Leroy Pringle in the director's new M-G-M picture, "The Passion Flower."

Another addition to the cast of "The Passion Flower" is three and a half year old Dickey Moore, a promising juvenile player.

The cast of "The Passion Flower" also includes Kay Francis, Charles Bickford, Lewis Stone and Zasu Pitts.

Zion Myers and Jules White have assembled the largest flock of canine extras on record for their newest super-dramatic all-barking feature, according to word from the coast. The new picture will be cauued "The Big Dog-House," and this somewhat reminiscent title will be number six in the group of all-canine M-G-M releases, with synchronized voices. Earlier dog comedies comprise "Hot Dog," "College Hounds," "The Dogway Melody," "Who Killed Rover?" and "All Quiet on the K-9 Front." The new production, a prison story, will mark a further experiment in the vocal synchronization of the dog actors' facial movements, for it will be screened in several languages.

Guthrie McClintic, who is scheduled to direct the Fox picture, "Luxury," with H. B. Warner and Claire Luce in the leading roles, took time off from his film work to stage the Los Angeles production of "The Dishonored Lady," in which his wife, Katherine Cornell, is starred.

What is said to be one of the most distinguished casts ever assembled for a Western will support Rex Lease in the first subject of his series of six Tiffany Westerns, "The Utah Kid."

Lease in the title role has Dorothy Sebastian as his leading woman. Heavy honors are divided between Tom Santschi, one of the screen's most distinguished character actors, and Boris Karloff, a noted film villian. Walter Miller of Pathe Serial fame is cast in an important role, as is Mary Carr, the famous screen mother. Richard Thorpe is directing.

With the signing of Water Byron, stage and screen star for Columbia's picturization of E. Phillips Oppenheim's novel, "The Lion and the Lamb," preparations for shooting the film are rapidly nearing completion. George B. Seitz will direct this roadshow production.

Noah Beery, Jr., son of the famous character actor will play a part in "Beau Ideal," sequel to the prize winning "Beau Geste," in which his father achieved his greatest fame as "Sergeant LeJeune." Herbert Brenon is now rehearsing "Beau Ideal," with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Ralph Forbes, Don Alvarado and other notables in the cast.

Carl Laemmle, Jr. is holding daily conferences with Edwin Carewe, and Herman Rosse, the art director, relative to the production of Tolstoy's "Resurrection." John Boles will portray the role of Prince Dmitri, while Lupe Velez plays Katusha. Dmitri Tiomkin, Russian composer and concert pianist, has completed an elaborated musical score which contains three Russian folk tunes and other songs which will be rendered by Boles and Miss Velez.

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A Gold Mine for the Exhibitors!

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Love in the Scarlet Havana Streets

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who cares for tomorrow?

LIFE — in the scarlet streets of Havana — where women get and men forget.

"He was her man — but he done her wrong," runs the old song, and around this theme revolves a vivid, realistic, colorful drama of the regeneration of a girl born "on the wrong side of the island."

Pathé Picture

Her MAN

with HELEN TWELVETREES • MARJORIE RAMBEAU •
RICARDO CORTEZ • PHILLIPS HOLMES • JAMES GLEASON

Here's a Box Office "Natural" Such as comes only with
Pathe's Wonderful List of Pictures This Season

Distributed in Canada by Regal Films Ltd.

Says Ray Lewis in the Canadian Moving Picture Digest: "Loose Ends," the British produced all-talking picture with Owen Nares and Edna Best, has a most unusual story and cast. It is being released by Regal Films Ltd., and shares honors with "Atlantic" in revealing just how good a good British feature can be. "Loose Ends" is real entertainment and possesses the quality of dramatic values seldom surpassed for interest.

British International Pictures Ltd.

Presents

OWENS NARES and EDNA BEST

in the Totally Different All Talking Drama

LOOSE ENDS

From the Stage Play by Dion Titheradge

"Loose Ends" is Another in the Series of British Super-Features Secured for Canadian Distribution by Our London Representative. Each of These Features Will Show the Remarkable Advance England Has Made in the Production of the Better Type of Talking Pictures.

Exhibitors who keep posted on Affairs in the Industry are arranging to run the Entire Series

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